

Table 1. Historical Highlights: 1997 and Earlier Census Years

[For meaning of abbreviations and symbols, see introductory text]

All farms	1997	1992	1987	1982	1978	1974	1969	1964
Farms number..	14 094	14 279	14 249	13 484	12 311	11 282	11 641	14 206
Land in farms acres..	45 787 108	46 849 244	46 018 005	47 096 085	47 934 714	47 046 388	46 792 302	47 646 966
Average size of farm acres..	3 249	3 281	3 230	3 493	3 894	4 170	4 020	3 354
Estimated market value of land and buildings ¹ :								
Average per farm dollars..	625 307	645 677	582 012	618 708	538 888	323 418	168 336	117 042
Average per acre dollars..	195	194	180	178	139	78	42	35
Estimated market value of all machinery and equipment ¹ , \$1,000..	619 915	525 911	468 262	430 983	355 406	230 893	123 688	(NA)
Average per farm dollars..	44 047	36 992	33 093	32 053	28 982	21 731	11 141	(NA)
Farms by size:								
1 to 9 acres	2 594	2 600	2 421	1 979	1 326	1 063	1 077	1 381
10 to 49 acres	2 618	2 611	2 710	2 591	2 117	1 694	1 704	2 757
50 to 179 acres	2 163	2 142	2 164	2 127	1 937	1 801	1 831	2 379
180 to 499 acres	1 721	1 748	1 846	1 801	1 809	1 777	1 811	2 174
500 to 999 acres	1 232	1 260	1 341	1 254	1 328	1 201	1 364	1 469
1,000 to 1,999 acres	1 111	1 161	1 126	1 171	1 174	1 136	1 194	1 224
2,000 acres or more	2 655	2 757	2 641	2 561	2 620	2 610	2 660	2 822
Total cropland farms..	9 435	9 447	9 429	9 196	8 597	8 041	8 308	10 742
Harvested cropland farms..	2 179 428	2 252 970	2 279 119	2 234 468	2 257 159	2 187 446	2 281 811	2 271 160
..... acres..	7 008	7 213	7 269	7 395	7 016	6 393	6 700	8 828
Irrigated land farms..	7 444	7 331	7 022	6 918	6 554	5 714	5 698	8 274
..... acres..	804 616	738 272	718 449	807 206	890 610	867 325	822 637	812 723
Market value of agricultural products sold ² , \$1,000..	1 617 708	1 258 883	1 060 112	850 562	792 228	521 693	358 831	226 676
Average per farm dollars..	114 780	88 163	74 399	63 079	64 351	46 241	30 824	15 956
Crops, including nursery and greenhouse crops... \$1,000..	462 178	375 571	261 488	232 230	187 879	158 398	77 222	90 218
Livestock, poultry, and their products \$1,000..	1 155 530	883 312	798 624	618 332	604 348	362 853	280 369	135 815
Farms by value of sales ³ :								
Less than \$2,500	5 097	4 868	5 104	4 851	3 566	3 754	4 146	6 858
\$2,500 to \$4,999	1 811	1 840	1 802	1 816	1 689	1 429	1 512	1 623
\$5,000 to \$9,999	1 710	1 738	1 700	1 552	1 615	1 474	1 661	1 633
\$10,000 to \$24,999	1 755	1 852	1 828	1 743	1 809			
\$25,000 to \$49,999	1 099	1 208	1 234	1 143	1 237	3 704	3 767	3 713
\$50,000 to \$99,999	896	969	966	902	1 006			
\$100,000 to \$499,999	1 241	1 379	1 304	1 188	1 133	757	434	318
\$500,000 or more	485	425	311	226	187	100	60	
Farms by type of organization:								
Individual or family (sole proprietorship).....	11 783	11 959	11 929	11 440	10 360	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Partnership	1 158	1 276	1 362	1 202	1 286	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Corporation	848	794	753	617	512	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Other—cooperative, estate or trust, institutional, etc.	305	250	205	225	153	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Operators by days worked off farm ⁴ :								
None	5 752	5 708	5 265	4 462	5 040	3 890	(NA)	(NA)
Any	7 506	7 590	8 137	7 809	6 783	4 953	6 337	6 549
200 days or more	4 592	4 673	4 937	4 752	4 230	2 996	3 710	3 785
Operators by principal occupation ⁴ :								
Farming	7 197	7 540	7 243	6 896	6 047	6 168	(NA)	(NA)
Other	6 897	6 739	7 006	6 588	6 264	4 675	(NA)	(NA)
Average age of operator ⁴ years..	56.5	55.3	53.7	51.9	51.9	52.7	51.1	51.7
Total farm production expenses ⁵ , \$1,000..	1 204 227	1 049 010	892 641	(NA)	(NA)	482 947	323 999	(NA)
Selected farm production expenses ¹ :								
Livestock and poultry purchased \$1,000..	221 246	257 230	268 175	227 193	230 005	140 385	118 967	35 572
Feed for livestock and poultry \$1,000..	334 541	221 787	163 870	143 887	135 420	128 765	58 280	34 083
Commercial fertilizer ⁶ \$1,000..	34 563	29 236	20 913	18 245	17 049	16 166	7 452	6 535
Petroleum products \$1,000..	49 544	49 222	41 585	50 808	37 494	22 255	13 711	13 615
Hired farm labor \$1,000..	140 862	115 633	98 309	61 178	51 754	34 931	27 145	25 481
Interest ⁶ \$1,000..	78 791	69 101	68 124	76 151	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
Agricultural chemicals ⁶ \$1,000..	18 085	15 096	13 079	8 462	8 264	3 776	2 838	(NA)
Livestock and poultry:								
Cattle and calves inventory farms..	8 677	8 964	8 926	9 189	8 365	8 240	8 053	10 200
..... number..	1 676 171	1 589 978	1 445 062	1 535 348	1 536 455	1 552 803	1 499 332	1 202 795
Beef cows farms..	6 894	7 248	6 939	7 269	6 540	6 215	(NA)	8 489
..... number..	581 812	631 738	572 828	597 132	568 537	666 980	586 368	611 137
Milk cows farms..	523	650	848	1 357	1 410	1 650	885	3 444
..... number..	215 844	110 422	58 606	53 877	37 309	31 036	29 474	34 755
Cattle and calves sold farms..	8 094	8 426	8 517	8 404	8 102	7 953	7 897	8 908
..... number..	1 308 236	1 181 980	1 298 570	1 149 750	1 403 193	1 239 027	1 250 123	901 296
Hogs and pigs inventory farms..	346	496	592	914	1 053	1 031	1 287	2 053
..... number..	6 114	20 233	44 248	39 485	59 554	54 184	59 642	38 924
Hogs and pigs sold farms..	246	326	373	560	726	617	1 005	865
..... number..	7 997	43 633	89 200	84 958	133 110	98 095	89 363	58 227
Layers and pullets 13 weeks old and older inventory (see text) ⁷ farms..	669	899	1 363	1 809	1 729	1 448	1 656	4 327
..... number..	(D)	1 363 949	(D)	(D)	1 743 779	976 613	1 043 081	738 308
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold farms..	11	20	19	38	13	19	6	1
..... number..	(D)	2 026	(D)	2 484	709	12 627	1 402	2 000

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Historical Highlights: 1997 and Earlier Census Years—Con.

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All farms	1997	1992	1987	1982	1978	1974	1969	1964
Selected crops harvested:								
Corn for grain or seed farms . . .	316	398	434	479	514	522	404	685
acres . . .	80 122	72 348	37 540	57 161	68 396	44 466	18 850	13 892
bushels . .	13 795 021	11 773 777	5 300 378	6 901 030	6 423 473	3 202 616	960 027	466 025
Sorghum for grain or seed farms . . .	496	568	776	1 023	1 288	1 317	1 757	1 453
acres . . .	188 615	180 421	156 979	259 294	269 537	218 600	267 044	181 264
bushels . .	7 059 484	8 144 520	8 680 130	9 645 858	9 397 134	10 248 456	13 036 297	8 647 535
Wheat for grain farms . . .	711	892	1 229	1 459	1 211	1 070	1 154	950
acres . . .	264 190	341 016	309 184	480 418	334 825	204 155	149 335	141 025
bushels . .	8 605 057	10 433 609	8 820 030	10 026 475	5 482 576	3 433 724	3 426 062	2 610 575
Cotton farms . . .	459	459	697	669	1 015	1 495	1 985	2 682
acres . . .	67 996	53 393	79 135	77 912	122 401	146 414	138 185	188 002
bales . . .	113 281	74 954	113 013	88 282	118 536	150 615	153 331	256 190
Hay—alfalfa, other tame, small grain, wild, grass silage, green chop, etc. (see text) farms . . .	4 616	4 502	4 830	4 838	4 558	4 075	4 052	(NA)
acres . . .	318 213	267 507	276 861	296 171	302 448	254 594	244 018	226 530
tons, dry . .	1 207 842	934 026	960 735	1 042 289	1 042 578	917 184	893 321	740 304

¹Data are based on a sample of farms.

²Data for 1974 and prior years include the value of forest products sold.

³Data for 1982 and prior years exclude abnormal farms.

⁴Data for 1974 apply only to individual or family operations (sole proprietorship) and partnerships.

⁵Data for 1964 to 1982 do not include cost of custom applications; data for agricultural chemicals include the cost of lime for 1969 to 1978.

⁶Data for 1982 do not include imputation for item nonresponse.

⁷Data for 1969 to 1992 are for chickens 3 months old or older inventory; data for 1964 are for chickens 4 months old or older.